



700 Sunset Boulevard North • Sunset Beach, NC 28468

Telephone: 910-579-6297 • Fax: 910-579-1840

Website: www.sunsetbeachnc.gov • Email: sunsetbeach@atmc.net

Susan Parker, Administrator

DRAFT

October 20, 2015

Mr. Donald van der Vaat
Secretary
North Carolina Department of Environment & Natural Resources
217 West Jones St.
Raleigh, NC 27603

Dear Secretary van der Vaat:

We wanted to thank you for the comments that you and your staff made at the N.C. Renewable Energy Task Force meeting in Wilmington earlier this month in regards to the potential location of wind turbines off our beach strand.

The two proposed Wilmington call areas are forecasted to start 10 miles off-shore, and have as many as 680 total turbines rising as high as 700 feet above the surface with night lights. Additionally, a call area proposed in South Carolina just off the North Myrtle Beach coastline starts six miles off-shore. There is no doubt that these turbines as proposed would combine to be part of our future sightline for guests and residents on the Sunset Beach strand (and much of the Brunswick County coast).

Most area communities do want to recognize the potential of a 'clean energy' source. But BOEM staff said at the Wilmington meeting after your presentation that "economics don't drive their decisions at this stage". It will be up to the companies that bid on leases to determine that years down the line. Why put our tourism industry's momentum at risk for something not yet proven to benefit our nation, state, or region?

We don't know if the proper distance is 15 miles or 24 miles, but we're asking for your continued support that plans for the turbines be moved far enough off-shore so that they can't be seen from the strand (as is already in place for the Kitty Hawk call area).

Mayor: Ron Watts • Mayor Pro-Tem: Louis DeVita
Town Council: Terry Johnson • Carol Scott • Mike Williams • Wilson Sherrill

Part of North Carolina's Brunswick Islands



700 Sunset Boulevard North • Sunset Beach, NC 28468

Telephone: 910-579-6297 • Fax: 910-579-1840

Website: www.sunsetbeachnc.gov • Email: sunsetbeach@atmc.net

Susan Parker, Administrator

We also ask that you share your concerns (and ours) with your South Carolina peer in regards to their proposed call areas. This is an issue that needs to be looked at on a regional basis, instead of just within arbitrary state lines.

Sincerely,

Mayor & Sunset Beach Town Council

cc: Rep. Frank Iler
Senator Bill Rabon
Gov. Pat McCrory

Mayor: Ron Watts • Mayor Pro-Tem: Louis DeVita
Town Council: Terry Johnson • Carol Scott • Mike Williams • Wilson Sherrill

Part of North Carolina's Brunswick Islands

